

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00249 081552Z

62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 091689

O R 081313Z MAR 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1734

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 0249

EXDIS

CAIRO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, IR

SUBJECT: IRAQI-IRANIAN AGREEMENT

REF: BAGHDAD 0248

1. NOW THAT IRAQ AND IRAN HAVE TAKEN MAJOR STEP TOWARD RAPPROCHEMENT WITH ACCORD IN ALGIERS (REFTEL), I BELIEVE WE SHOULD DO WHAT WE CAN TO ENCOURAGE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AMBITIOUS PACKAGE AGREEMENT.

2. AS FAR AS IRAQ IS CONCERNED, WE SHOULD, IN MY VIEW, AVOID MAKING PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT WOULD PUT U.S. "KISS OF DEATH" ON ACCORD. SUCH STATEMENTS WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE USED AGAINST SADDAM BY EXTREMIST ELEMENTS WITHIN BAATH PARTY WHO ARE ALREADY CRITICIZING HIS GRADUAL TRANSFORMATION OF IRAQ'S FOREIGN POLICY. I DO, HOWEVER, RECOMMEND THAT SECRETARY SEND CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSSEIN. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST TO CONVEY SUCH A MESSAGE TO SADDAM DIRECTLY AND PERSONALLY BY PROMINENT AMERICAN VISITOR RATHER THAN THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS (SINCE IT WOULD SOON BECOME WIDELY KNOWN IF DONE THROUGH MFA). ALTHOUGH SPEED IS NOT PRIMARY CONSIDERATION, ONE POSSIBILITY IS CY SULZBERGER, WHO EXPECTED TO VISIT BAGHDAD NEXT WEEK, AND WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY SEE SADDAM. I BELIEVE HE IS NOW IN

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BEIRUT.

3. AT SAME TIME, IF EMBASSY TEHRAN AGREES, IT WOULD SEEM
APPROPRIATE AND USEFUL FOR SECRETARY OR PRESIDENT TO SEND MESSAGE
TO SHAH CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS STATESMANSHIP AND FORESIGHTED-
NESS.
LOWRIE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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